Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2001 TO SEPTEMBER 28, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Retail sales	July 2001			Retail sales fell in July, reflecting lower sales by gasoline service stations. Among the seven retail sectors, automotive (-2.0%) and clothing (-1.2%) posted lower sales in July, while sales increased in food stores (0.5%), retail stores not elsewhere classified (1.1%), and general merchandise stores (1.4%). Of the provinces and territories, three showed retail sales increases in July: Newfoundland (1.8%), Manitoba (1.8%), and Nova Scotia (0.2%). Alberta retail sales fell by 0.2%.
Alberta	2,904	-0.2%	8.3%	
Canada	24,145	-0.5%	2.9%	
Canadian Composite Leading Index (1992=100)	August 2001 166.1	0.0%	-1.2%	The Composite Leading Indicator was unchanged from July and June. Three of the four components that rose were related to household demand, with the largest increases being in the housing index (1.6%), other durable goods (0.2%), and the U.S. composite leading indicator (0.2%); however, the sources of growth in the U.S. indicator were narrow even before the impact of the September terrorist attack. The largest declines were in new orders of durables (-0.8%) and TSE 300 stock price index (-0.5%).
Gross Domestic Product (1997 $ millions)	July 2001 937,405	-0.1%	0.4%	Canadian GDP declined 0.1% in July. The largest decreases were in the manufacturing (-0.5%), utilities (-1.5%), and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sectors (-1.7%). Reduced output of the computer and electronics industries (-1.9%) and wood products (-2.7%) contributed to the decline. Wholesale activity was down 0.7% while retail was almost flat (-0.1%). Electric power generation and transmission was down 2.1% from June, as electricity exports fell for a second consecutive month.